

Hi Elizabeth,

Just wanted to drop a quick note of support for Short Term AirBnB rentals. I live in the Williamsburg area.

I find that many of my neighbors who oppose AirBnB are in an older demographic, and assume that AirBnB brings in higher rates of crime and noise. However, my experience in using AirBnB is that it allows my family and I when we travel to visit wonderful neighborhoods in a non intrusive manner. We have no issue with AirBnB, and in fact believe that for municipalities to thrive in the future they will need to be adaptable with a changing economy.

We do, though, think that there are some reasonable guardrails for hosting. It seems that AirBnB rentals should provide a locality tax. It also seems that if it is a primary residence, there should be a limit on the number of days a year (for example, no more than 60 days) it can be rented, to ensure that primary residences do not become strict retail properties.

However, outright banning of AirBnBs seems extreme and the first response of those who fear change. Instead, I'd love to see Virginia continue to adapt to changing forms of enterprise and steer a reasonable middle ground.

Best of luck with your work!

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